

From: The Bryant's
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/8/01 10:22am
Subject: Settlement

I cannot believe that the DOJ would spend so much of the Taxpayers money to achieve so little in the Microsoft case. The taxpayers are not served by the DOJ decision. Computer users are not served by the decision. Our children are not served well by the decision. The only entities served by the decision are Microsoft and the legal community. I think the hard working taxpaying community should come away from this issue with more than a due bill from Microsoft and the DOJ.

I support Red Hat's proposal to exclude software donations by Microsoft to the public school system or any organization. Also, it would be in the Taxpayers interest to prevent Microsoft (or any company) from selling the Academic Edition of its products at a tremendous discount from what other users must pay. This practice creates artificial demand for Microsoft products by forcing students to learn products which may be inferior to other software. Academic Edition sales harm smaller software developers by not giving them access to a potentially large user market.

Public education dollars should not be spent to subsidize the sale and teaching of proprietary products in the public school system.

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